

**SEP 30 2003**

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

**CATHY A. CATTERSON  
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS**

**WILLIAM ERIC FOUTS; GERI LYNN  
FOUTS,**

**Plaintiffs - Appellants,**

**v.**

**COUNTY OF CLARK, a political  
subdivision of the State of Nevada; JIM  
FORMAN; CINDY LUCAS; BARRY  
LAGAN; LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN  
POLICE DEPARTMENT,**

**Defendants - Appellees.**

**No. 02-16635**

**D.C. No.  
CV-00-01153-KJD/PAL**

**MEMORANDUM\***

**Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the District of Nevada  
Kent J. Dawson, District Judge, Presiding**

**Argued and Submitted August 11, 2003  
San Francisco, California**

**Before: HALL, O'SCANNLAIN, and LEAVY, Circuit Judges.**

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\* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and may not be cited to or by the courts of this circuit except as may be provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

William and Geri Fouts (“the Fouts”) appeal the district court’s summary judgment in favor of the County of Clark, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and three county public response officers in the Fouts’ 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action alleging that the defendants unlawfully removed a number of inoperative vehicles from the 1.1 acres surrounding the Fouts’ home. We have jurisdiction over this timely appeal under 28 U.S.C. § 1291 and, after de novo review, we affirm.

Because the parties are familiar with the facts, we recite them here only as necessary to our disposition. The warrant requirement of the Fourth Amendment, as applied to the states via the Fourteenth Amendment, applies to entry onto private land to search for and abate suspected nuisances. Conner v. City of Santa Ana, 897 F.2d 1487, 1490-91 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1990). However, judicial processes other than the issuance of a warrant can satisfy the Fourth Amendment. See Marshall v. Barlow’s Inc., 436 U.S. 307, 323-25 (1978); Conner, 897 F.2d 1491 n.7; see also Henderson v. Simi Valley, 305 F.3d 1052, 1057-58 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002). Nevada state court review and affirmance of the county’s abatement order met the Barlow’s requirements. The court, a neutral forum, reviewed and dismissed the Fouts’ complaint challenging the county’s authority to abate the nuisance on their property, and denied the Fouts’ motion for a preliminary injunction, holding that

the county's decision to abate was supported by substantial evidence. The Notice of Abatement limited the scope and objects of the seizure.

There is no merit to the Fouts's argument that the court's oral ruling was insufficient. We give the same full faith and credit to a Nevada state court's oral order that the state court would give the oral order. See Southeast Resource Recovery Facility Auth. v. Montenay Int'l Corp., 973 F.2d 711, 712-13 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992). The Nevada courts give oral orders the same effect as written ones. See e.g., Lewis v. Second Judicial District Court, In and For County of Washoe, 930 P.2d 770, 774-75 (Nev. 1997). Therefore, the Nevada court's oral order met Fourth Amendment requirements for the seizure of the Fouts's vehicles.

"The fundamental requirements of procedural due process are notice and an opportunity to be heard before the government may deprive a person of a protected liberty or property interest." Conner, 897 F.2d at 1492. Judicial involvement in the process is not required by the Constitution. See id. The Fouts's were afforded notice and several opportunities to be heard before their vehicles were seized. Thus, their procedural due process claim is without merit.

"Where a particular Amendment provides an explicit textual source of constitutional protection against a particular sort of government behavior, that Amendment, not the more generalized notion of substantive due process must be

the guide for analyzing these claims.” Albright v. Oliver, 510 U.S. 266, 273 (1994) (Rehnquist, C.J., for plurality). Thus, the Fouts’ substantive due process claim fails because it is preempted by their Fourth and Fifth Amendment claims. See Armendariz v. Penman, 75 F.3d 1311, 1320 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1996) (en banc).

The Fouts’ Fifth Amendment takings claim fails for two reasons. First, there is no evidence in the record that the automobiles that were not returned to the Fouts had any value. Second, the Fouts’ vehicles were abated because the automobiles themselves were a public nuisance. “Courts have consistently held that a State need not provide compensation when it diminishes or destroys the value of property by stopping illegal activity or abating a public nuisance.” Keystone Bituminous Coal Ass’n v. DeBenedictis, 480 U.S. 470, 492 n.22 (1987).

We need not reach the issue whether the individual defendants are entitled to qualified immunity because there has been no violation of a constitutional right. Saucier v. Katz, 533 U.S. 194, 201 (2001).

AFFIRMED.